

THE TRI-WEEKLY YEOMAN.

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T E R M S .

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SATURDAY MARCH 17, 1860

—We give up a considerable portion of our paper to the publication of Gov. Powell's able and interesting speech upon the abuses of the franking privilege. We copy also the editorial comments of the Boston Courier upon Senator Powell's effort. The latter will be found a sensible and just critique of the speech though it comes from a political opponent.

The Apportionment.

No act of the late Legislature gave the dominant party more trouble than the apportionment. The managers readily agreed upon the details. The difficulty was in rallying the party. Mr. Alexander, a Democratic Senator, said he knew the bill was unjust—and then voted for it. Other Democrats, however, could neither be coaxed nor driven into its support, and so the original bill failed. A committee of conference was appointed, and another bill patched up. This also failed. Towards the close of the session, another bill was reported. In the Senate, and perhaps in the House, also, the bill was forced through under the party lash, without allowing time for amendment or discussion. The injustice of the bill was so glaring that the Democrats themselves were constrained to attempt its modification. Accordingly, a bill correcting some of its inequalities was introduced and passed. But the more the thing was patched the worse it looked; and just at the close of session, Mr. Johnson, a Democratic Senator, introduced "an act"—we quote from the Yeoman—"supplemental to an act entitled an act supplemental to an act to apportion representation." We lost the run of the supplement to the supplement, in the confusion attending the closing of the Legislature, and don't know whether it passed or not.

The above paragraph, from the Winchester Chronicle, is about as reliable in its facts and forcible in its argument as other attacks now being made by the Opposition press upon the Democracy of the late Legislature. Without considering the effect it is likely to have upon his production, we feel bound to put our Opposition cotemporary in possession of the fact that neither of the Senators mentioned by him are Democrats. It may be mortifying to Dr. Johnson, the Senator from McCracken, and to Mr. Alexander, the Senator from Boyle, Adair, and Casey, that their political reputation did not extend from the capitol to Winchester, but that was not our fault. The "act supplemental to an act entitled an act supplemental to an act to apportion representation," proposed by the clever Senator from McCracken never became a law. This act to apportion representation in the State has but one supplement. We trust our friend of the Chronicle will get "the run" of both by the time an election is held under them.

—The free negro law passed by the late Maryland Legislature, prohibits future manumissions unless the slaves be removed from the State, and also permits free colored persons to renounce their freedom. Another law was also passed to appoint a board of commissioners for the better control and management of the free colored population of St. Mary's, Calvert, Howard, Kent, Baltimore, Worcester, Caroline, Charles, Somerset, Prince George's, and Talbot counties. It provides that all free negroes shall provide homes for themselves; that if they cannot support themselves, they shall be hired out; all children shall be hired out until they are of age. The bill contains a clause which provides that the bill shall be submitted to the people at the next Presidential election.

BEAUTIFUL SPRING GOODS FOR GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHING.—We invite attention to the card of Mr. Swain, merchant tailor, Masonic Temple, Fourth street, Louisville. This gentleman has on hand a stock of the most beautiful French, English, and American cloths, cassimeres and vestings, designed especially for the spring styles. The cutting and designing department of this celebrated establishment is under well known and artistic cutters, and a guarantee to give entire satisfaction is awarded to each gentleman who patronizes the establishment.

PORTRAITS.—Spencer Harding, a portrait painter of no ordinary merit, has taken rooms in Hambleton's gallery, opposite Capital Hotel. Persons wishing to see something elegant in the way of pictures, will be gratified by calling at this gallery.

THE FRANKFORT RIFLES.—This is the title of a new military company organized in this place. We give a list of the officers:

Captain—JOHN M. HEWITT, Jr.,
1st Lieut.—W. M. CARPENTER
2d Lieut.—W. M. CONVERY
3d Lieut.—JOHN B. DREYDEN
Color Bearer—THOS. B. FORD
O. Sergeant—ALBERT H. McCLEURE
2d Sergeant—W. M. READING
3d Sergeant—THOS. S. PITT
4th Sergeant—W. M. K. GRAY
1st Corporal—W. M. THOMPSON
2d Corporal—FRANCIS TODD
3d Corporal—LUCAS CHEEQUE
4th Corporal—MASON BATES.

—Wednesday evening Vira, a daughter of William Bennett, of Lebanon, was dangerously burned by her clothes taking fire.

MORE TROOPS.—A dispatch from Austin, Texas, dated the 7th inst., says:

Gov. Houston has ordered Captain Tomlinson to raise a company of forty picked men and hunt the Indians on the frontier wherever they are to be found.

MOBILE RACES—Magnolia Course.—March 13th, 1860.—Annual stake for three year olds—two mile heats. \$500 entrance, half forfeit—Club adds \$500—second horse to save entrance money.

Thos. G. Moore's b. f. Laura Farris, by Lexington, dam by imp. Margrave. 1 1
Jno. Campbell's ch. c. by Wagner, dam by Glencoe. 3
T. W. Dowsell's ch. c. Exchequer, by Revenue, dam by Boston. 2 3
Time—3:45; 3:47 1/2

SALE OF STOCK.—On Wednesday last, Maj. Hibler sold to Wm. Turners, near Millersburg, twenty-nine head of horses and mares, Ohio stock, at something over \$100 per head.—*Paris Flag*, 14th.

Senator Powell:

An argumentative speech in Congress in the debate on the bill to remove the abuses of the franking privilege. It is if not the more rare, certainly the more grateful! Senator Powell, of Kentucky, as we conceive, reached this high standard in the argument recently presented by him on the abolition of the franking privilege. He has looked the subject fairly in the face, and discussed it upon its true merits, eschewing all selfish, or personal, or party considerations, and has shown that justice and public economy demand the correction of the abuse. The popular voice is with him, unequivocally; for without regard to the immediate or collateral pecuniary cost of the privilege, there is in the public mind an intimate perception of the unreasonableness of the present almost unlimited system, based upon its extreme, if not inevitable liability to abuse. The community, however, has a very imperfect idea of the extent to which abuses are practiced under the privilege; and even Mr. Powell's exposition, faithful as it is, falls short of the full weight of the burden which he aims to remove.

The abuse of the franking privilege—and as at present practiced we regard it all an abuse—crept insidiously into our public laws. The true character of the measure, its reasonableness, its desirability, its propriety, its justice, could never have been duly considered, or it would surely have failed to be incorporated into our governmental system, without such restrictions as would have been a safeguard against the abuses which now characterize it.

Mr. Powell stated that the Government has received \$24,000 more than it ever put in the work, it had purchased more than one thousand shares, with money from the Federal Treasury, but on tolls collected from vessels passing through the canal. All he asked was that they might be allowed to use the revenue and credit of the canal so as to enlarge it sufficiently to accommodate the class of boats now navigating the Ohio river.

Mr. Wade said the tolls collected would be sufficient to make the proposed improvements and pairs. Not one dollar was asked from the government.

Mr. Crittenden remarked that these directors had held the stock merely for the preservation of the work, and had managed it the best they could. Mr. Davis thought for the government to hold stock in a canal was an invasion of the jurisdiction of a sovereign State. He admitted an arrangement was needed, but Kentucky ought to control the whole matter.

The bill was passed—80 yeas, 14 nays. On motion of Mr. Mason, the Senate went into Executive session, and subsequently adjourned. House.—Mr. Millson introduced a joint resolution declaring the construction that shall be put upon the act making appropriation for the satisfaction of the land warrants approved August, 52d. Referred.

Mr. Campbell, from the Committee on Elections, reported a resolution declaring it inexpedient to allow further time to take testimony in the use of Mr. Howard, contestant of the seat of Mr. Cooper, from the First Congressional district of Michigan. The consideration was postponed until Tuesday next.

Mr. Campbell reported a resolution, which was adopted, giving Mr. Howard leave to occupy a seat on the floor, pending the discussion in this case and permission to speak of the merits of the use of the land warrants.

The House went into committee on the report to amend the rules.

Mr. Washburn, of Me., explained—the object of the amendment was to correct the practice under the rules that the rules themselves, and facilitate the dispatch of business and remove all founded complaints. Several hours were consumed without coming to a conclusion upon the subject, when the committee arose and the bill was passed.

Mr. Hamilton moved that the Military Roadway bill, as returned by the Senate, with amendments, be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, one of them was of great interest to Texas, and had already been considered by that committee, viz: Calling out a mounted regiment.

Mr. Sherman desired the bill referred to the Committee of Ways of Means.

Mr. Stanton showed why it should be referred to the Military committee.

Mr. Reagan said the subject required urgent action in view of the existence of hostilities on Texas frontier, and supported the view of his colleague, Mr. Hamilton.

Pending the question of reference the House adjourned.

SHOOTING AFFAIR.—A difficulty in the county, in Wednesday, between Dr. Robt. Durrett, of his city, and L. L. Dorsep, resulted in the former shooting twice at Dorsep. Neither of the Doctor's balls took effect; and his adversary and his brother then closed on him, and beat the man physically. The difficulty had its origin in the settlement of an estate, concerning which suits are pending in the Louisville Chancery Court.—Lou. Cou.

A DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.—On Friday Evening, the 9th inst., Mr. Merle Cunningham, who lives near Salvisa in this county, was thrown from his buggy, near Harrodsburg, and so severely injured that he died on the Wednesday following, and was buried in the honors of Masonry yesterday.—*Harrodsburg Press*.

PETITIONS have been addressed to the Legislature of Ohio, asking them to appoint a day of fasting and prayer to atone for the sins committed by appropriating five thousand dollars for drunkenness and debauchery, in that treat given to the Legislatures of Kentucky and Tennessee. *Winchester Chronicle*.

SUICIDE OF A NEGRO.—A likely negro man, the property of Wm. Redmond, living a few miles south of town, committed suicide on Sunday night last, by hanging himself in the stable. We could not learn the cause of the act.—*Paris Flag*, 14th.

M. B. SWAIN,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
AND DEALER IN GENTLEMEN'S
FURNISHING GOODS,
No. 4 Masonic Building,
Louisville, Ky.

Notice.

A Negro Woman Wanted!
I WISH to purchase a NEGRO WOMAN about 40 years of age, not in the capacity of a maid in my own family; also a maid or nurse when necessary. A good price will be paid for one of experience in the above services, who is without encumbrance, and can be well recommended. Apply to me at the Auditor's office.

GRANT GREEN.

Schuetze & Ludolf,
MANUFACTURERS of Iron Frame

Grand, Square, and Parlor
Piano-Fortes, made
with all the improvements conducive
to superiority of sound and tone.

200 MEDALS awarded at the Fairs in New York 1857,
56 and '55, and in St. Louis, 1859. Dealers, Schools
and Families will save money by buying before purchasing.

All instruments guaranteed for three years.

Wards, 14th Street, (a few doors

West of Broadway) New York.

jan17 w&t-wt

JOHN L. PHYTHIAN, adm'r.

Notice.

ASSASSINATION IN THE COUNTY.—We learn that Mr. Lina Snapp, who lives on the Bardstown road, in the county, about six miles from Mt. Washington, was assassinated little after dark on Wednesday evening in his own house. Mr. S. was lying on a lounge, playing with his child, and in conversation with his wife who was standing close by him, when a gun was fired through the window. Mr. S. was instantly killed, and the child received a shot in the body, causing serious but it is hoped not mortal wounds. Mrs. Snapp was uninjured.

The coroner held an inquest on the body yesterday, but no clue to the perpetrators was discovered. The tracks of two horses were seen in a fence corner and trailed some distance toward Mt. Washington.—*Lou. Journal*.

Those who have the care of children, can not watch too closely the indications of worms in the intestines. They are often neglected from the natural repugnance that mothers feel to forceous drugs down their children's throats.

This difficulty is effectually removed by the use of Dr. John Bull's Vegetable Worm Destroyer.

It is as pleasant as candy, and far more efficacious than any sickening drug in the apothecary's shop.

Sold by W. H. Averill, agent for Frankfort and vicinity.

Time—3:45; 3:47 1/2

For Sale.

A HOUSE AND LOT situated on Wapping street,

next house to Mr. Bibb's, will be sold at a bar-

gain. Apply to

marl tw&wlm

HENRY KEENAN.

XXVII CONGRESS—First Session.

WASHINGTON, March 15.—SENATE.—On motion of Mr. Sumner, a resolution was adopted structuring the Committee on Finance to consider the numerous custom house oaths now ministered under acts of Congress may not with propriety be abolished, and simple declarations instituted therefor.

On motion of Mr. Benjamin the Senate considered the bill amending existing laws relative to compensation of District Attorneys, Marshals, and Clerks of the U. S. Circuit and District courts.

The bill was discussed and passed.

The special order was taken up, being a joint solution authorizing the enlargement and construction of a branch to the Louisville and Portland canal.

Mr. Wade presented resolutions of the Ohio legislature in favor of the same object, which were read.

On motion of Mr. Bright an amendment was proposed providing that when the canal shall be dredged and the branch constructed, and the tolls collected therefor, no more tolls shall be collected than an amount sufficient to repair the canal and pay for the necessary call.

Mr. Toombs opposed the bill, saying that the government owned all excepting five shares, which were held by directors who controlled the work, doing just what they pleased. If they made money, very well, but if they got in debt, they would call on the Government to foot the bill.

Mr. T. S. & J. R. Page retaining the Dry Goods and Queenware Establishment, with the notes and accounts of said firm. Their business will be settled up by said T. S. & J. R. Page—W. A. Gaines retaining the Hardware and Grocery. Both establishments will be carried on at the same stands, where we will be pleased to serve our old customers and all others wishing cheap, and desirable goods to give them an early call.

feb29 w&t-wt

SPECIAL NOTICES.

A Family Necessity.

The following statement speaks for itself—(Extract.) "In lifting the kettle from the fire it caught and scalded my hands and person very severely—one hand almost to a crisp. The torture was unbearable. It was an awful sight. . . . The Mustang Liniment appeared to extract the pain almost immediately. It healed rapidly and left no scar.

CHARLES FOSTER, 420, Broad Street, Philadelphia."

It is a wonderful article. It will cure any case of swelling, Burns, Stiff Joints, Eruptions, or Rheumatism. For Horses, it should never be dispensed with. One dollar's worth of Mustang has frequently saved a valuable horse. It cures Glands, Sprains, Ringbone, Spavin, and Founders. *Beware of Imitations.*

BARNES & PARK, Proprietors, New York.

mar17 w&t-wt

J. L. Moore & Son

Are now opening their SPRING and SUMMER

GOODS, styles new and very handsome—variety great.

They invite their old customers and all others

wishing cheap, and desirable goods to give them an early call.

feb29 w&t-wt

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THE TRI-WEEKLY YEOMAN.

SPEECH

HON. L. W. POWELL, OF KENTUCKY,
On abolishing the Franking Privilege. Delivered in the Senate of the United States, February 8, 1860.

The PRESIDING OFFICER, (Mr. FITZPATRICK in the chair.) The question now is on the amendment of the Finance Committee as amended, to add:

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That all laws authorizing the franking privilege, and all acts and resolutions made, and after the first day of April next, *Provided*, All persons now authorized by law to frank, by indorsing their names and designation by which the right is conferred upon them, on all matter, made by them, to be sent by mail, or printed postage, and the postage on such mail shall be at the rate and payable by the person or persons to whom the same may be directed, at the point of destination.

Mr. POWELL said:

I beg the indulgence of the Senate whilst I make a few remarks on the amendment, reported by the Committee on Finance to this bill, abolishing the franking privilege. In the progress of the debate, every Senator who has spoken has admitted that this franking privilege is a great evil, and that it should be abolished. I have had no dissenting voice upon that subject. The only objection that I hear urged to the amendment is, that it should not be attached to the Post-office deficiency bill. In the early part of the session, I introduced a bill for the purpose of abolishing the franking privilege. That bill is now before the Committee on the Post-office and Post roads. I regard the franking privilege as one that entails great and manifold evils on this country. Hence, I desire its abrogation. I differ entirely from the Senator who has expressed an opinion that this is not a proper time, and that this bill is not a proper one to which this amendment should be attached. I concur most heartily with the distinguished Senator from Georgia, (Mr. Toombs,) when he declared that this was the very time and the very place to do it; and, for one, I return now to the Finance Committee my hearty thanks for having reported this amendment; and I return my thanks to the Senator from New Hampshire for having inserted in it a provision that it shall take effect on the 1st day of April, instead of the 1st of May. I desire that it shall take effect as early as possible. I wish to stop the quadrennial flooding of this country with the miserable campaign documents that precede every presidential election. The amendment of the Senator from New Hampshire, I think, will effectively do that, because it causes the law to take effect before either of the conventions meet to nominate the respective candidates.

I can conceive no reason why a member of Congress ever should have had the franking privilege other than for the purpose of allowing his free communication with his constituents, and the constituent free communication with him. All the privilege that should ever have been extended to him on this subject is to exempt him from the postal charges on the letters that he might write to his constituents, or receive from them, upon official business. That, however, is not now the law. We find that the members of Congress not only have this privilege to exercise it for the purpose of communicating with their constituents on matters of official duty and of public business, but they use it in every department of life. All their private correspondence goes under their franks, and they do not even stop there. If the reports we have are correct, they have not only exercised that which was conferred by the law as a personal privilege, but they absolutely extend it, I believe, to wife, children, and friends; and many of them, it is said, to all who ask it. Whether that be so or not, I am not enabled to say; but such is the general impression throughout the country, and particularly in this city.

I have been furnished by a gentleman, with some tabular statements which, I think, will tend very much to show, if they do not conclusively establish, that the abolition of the franking privilege will be an annual saving to the country of at least \$4,000,000. In the very able report of the Postmaster-General, that I hold in my hand, he estimates that the saving in postages alone will be \$1,800,000 a year. I apprehend that the premise from which he derived that conclusion are correct. In the matter of public printing, there will, I think, be a very great saving. I have a tabular statement furnished to me by Mr. Rives, who was for many years Printer to Congress, showing the money received by the Printers for Congress during seven Congresses, commencing with the Twenty-Third and ending with the Twenty-Ninth Congress, inclusive. Mr. Rives says that he has every confidence that that statement is correct; that he made it with great care. It was published in the Congressional Globe many years since. According to this statement, it appears that the aggregate cost of the public printing was—

For the Twenty-Third Congress \$279,300 80
For the Twenty-Fourth Congress 181,790 25
For the Twenty-Fifth Congress 319,665 35
For the Twenty-Sixth Congress 187,679 61
For the Twenty-Seventh Congress 314,663 73
For the Twenty-Eighth Congress 276,100 60

I have also a tabular statement which was prepared for me in the office of the Secretary of the Senate, and I presume it is correct, showing the cost of the public printing for the two Houses during each Congress for the last six years. It is as follows:

Statement showing the aggregate cost of the printing, &c., ordered by the Thirty-Third, Thirty-Fourth, and Thirty-Fifth Congresses.

Description of Printing, &c. Senate. House. Total.

33 Congress, Printing, dry-pressing, folding, &c. \$177,075 00 \$234,867 76
Paper 199,759 52 30,696 69
Binding 22,500 11 310,895 45
Engraving, lithographing &c. 388,968 88 441,589 47
\$992,663 60 1,228,052 00 \$2,220,716 00

34 Congress, Printing, dry-pressing, folding, &c. \$142,599 80 \$254,641 75
Paper 166,533 25 343,610 30
Binding 146,443 41 218,599 42
Engraving, lithographing &c. 124,198 84 221,685 78
\$579,553 30 1,028,537 34 1,618,292 64

35 Congress, Printing, dry-pressing, folding, &c. \$102,341 13 \$204,019 10
Paper 83,877 34 220,946 40
Binding 50,527 80 113,033 28
Engraving, lithographing &c. 44,303 85 50,031 17
\$286,060 12 \$604,929 35 \$90,690 07

Average cost for the 33d, 34th & 35th Congresses 1,838,479 02 2,870,619 69 \$4,729,098 71

The average cost of the public printing for the six years included in this table is \$788,183 per annum. In the first statement which I gave, the largest expenditure was for the Twenty-Fifth Congress, \$319,665 35. That, I am told, does not include the binding. Taking half that sum for each year of the Congress, it would give \$159,802 67 per annum. Add \$40,000, which I am told is a large allowance for the binding, and you have \$199,802 67 as the annual expense of printing at that time. Deducting that from the annual printing expense for the last six years, of \$788,183, you have \$588,381 as the increased cost of the public printing in latter years. I think the greater part of this would be saved by abolishing the franking privilege, because then extra copies would not be printed for distribution. I am very confident that the result of this measure, if adopted, will be to effect an annual saving of \$500,000 in our printing expenses.

The Superintendent of Public Printing has furnished me a statement showing the regular number of documents printed during each of the last three Congresses, and their estimated weight. Statement showing the regular number of documents printed for Congress during the Thirty-Third, Thirty-Fourth, and Thirty-Fifth Congresses, and their estimated weight.

34d Congress—1st Session. Octavo. Quarto. Total. House of Representatives 16,800 1,490
Senate 30,400 1,530

33d Congress—2d Session. 21,400 26,600
House of Representatives 37,000 28,500
Senate 26,600 12,600
House of Representatives 19,520 13,680
34th Congress—3d Session. 22,720 5,680
House of Representatives 35,190 3,060
Senate 29,820 2,840
House of Representatives 44,370 3,060
Total 354,680 106,260

A yearly average of 289,463 lbs. 1,736,790 "

He has also furnished me a table exhibiting the amount of extra printing during the same period. Statement showing the number of extra copies of public documents ordered to be printed and distributed during the years Thirtieth, Thirty-Fourth, and Thirty-Fifth Congresses, (embracing a period of six years,) with their estimated weight.

33d Congress—1st Session. Octavo. Quarto. Total. House of Representatives 42,140 4,250
Senate 36,720 3,060
34th Congress—2d Session. 35,190 3,060
Senate 35,190 3,060
Total 354,680 106,260

A yearly average of 289,463 lbs. 1,736,790 "

He has also furnished me a table exhibiting the amount of extra printing during the same period.

Statement showing the number of extra copies of public documents ordered to be printed and distributed during the years Thirtieth, Thirty-Fourth, and Thirty-Fifth Congresses, (embracing a period of six years,) with their estimated weight.

33d Congress—1st Session. Octavo. Quarto. Total. House of Representatives 292,000 10,000
Senate 475,000 10,000
33d Congress—2d Session. 180,700 130,000
House of Representatives 406,000 122,000
Senate 182,700 66,400
House of Representatives 443,000 83,500
34th Congress—3d Session. 204,500 39,500
House of Representatives 485,000 25,500
Senate 126,500 7,200
House of Representatives 355,000 5,900
35th Congress—2d Session. 68,700 6,000
House of Representatives 37,600 3,000
Total 3,507,100 504,100

3,507,100 octavo volumes, averaging two 7,014,300 lbs. 504,100 quart volumes, averaging seven 3,528,700 "

Total 10,542,900 " 1,737,150 pounds; or five-sixths more than the usual number.

Thus, it will be seen that five-sixths of the printing that is done is extra printing. If we abolish the franking privilege, I believe that extra printing will be put an end to almost wholly.

The documents which I have presented, however, do not show the whole burden thrown upon the mails by the franking privilege.

There is a large number of speeches and pamphlets and documents of various kinds that pass through the folding rooms of the Senate and House of Representatives which do not come under the control of the Superintendent of Public Printing.

I have been furnished by the Superintendent of the Senate folding room with a statement showing the number of such pamphlets and newspapers folded in the folding room of the Senate during the last two Congresses:

Number of pamphlets and newspapers containing 300,463 pounds, reduced to tons 145 tons, postage at one cent on each pamphlet, &c., would be \$4,647.50.

Documents for distribution by Senators, received and folded in the Senate folding room, and not passed through the hands of the Superintendent of Public Printing for the Thirtieth, Forty-Fifth Congresses: 3,075,000

For the Thirty-Fifth Congress 1,572,500

For the Thirty-Fifth Congress 4,647,500

Average weight of each pamphlet, &c., one ounce 300,463 pounds, reduced to tons 145 tons, postage at one cent on each pamphlet, &c., would be \$4,647.50.

Documents for distribution by Senators, received and folded in the Senate folding room, and not passed through the hands of the Superintendent of Public Printing for the Thirtieth, Forty-Fifth Congresses: 3,075,000

For the Thirty-Fifth Congress 1,572,500

For the Thirty-Fifth Congress 4,647,500

Total number pounds 332,817

Reduced to tons 165 tons

JOSEPH HEDRICK,
Superintendent Senate Folding-Room.

I have no statement showing the number of documents of this description which has passed through the folding room of the House of Representatives. I called yesterday evening upon the Superintendent of that branch for a similar statement to this, but he informed me that he was a good deal uneasy, and thought, perhaps, that his head would be taken off to-day, but said that, if it were not, he would furnish me with the statement to-morrow. The yearly average of the statement I have just read, with regard to our own folding room, is one hundred and thirty thousand and eight hundred and twenty-one and a quarter pounds.

I suppose it is fair to presume that four times the quantity passes through the folding room of the other House; adding for that House five hundred and twenty-three thousand two hundred and eighty-five pounds, and we have a total annual average of six hundred and fifty-four thousand one hundred and six pounds of matter which passes through the folding rooms of the two Houses. Adding this to the yearly average of the extra documents exhibited by the statement of the Superintendent of the Public Printing, and we have an annual burden of more than two million and a quarter pounds thrown upon the mails in consequence of franking printed matter. Nor is this all. You must take into consideration the additional mail-bags and wrapping paper required, and the salaries of the persons employed in folding the documents and in carrying them from the folding rooms to the post office.

That last clause is very near prophetic, for the Post office has been very nearly ruined by this system. It was the intention of the Government, in the organization of the Department, that it should be self-sustaining. All the laws clearly indicate that. The act of 20th April, 1792, that established the Post-office and Post roads in the United States, "declares that 'the Postmaster-General shall provide for carrying the mails of the United States,' and 'shall defray the expense thereto together with all other expenses arising from the collection and management of the revenue of the Post-office.' The act of 1794 enacts that the postage 'shall be paid to such contractors as compensation for their expenses.' The last mentioned act authorized the Postmaster-General to contract for 'the carriage of a mail on any road on which a stage wagon, or other stage carriage, shall be established, on condition that the expense thereof shall not exceed the revenue thence arising.' In 1836, Congress provided that 'the aggregate sum required for the service of the Post-office Department in each year shall be appropriated by law out of the revenues of the Post-office Department.'

Thus you see that the laws from 1791 to 1836 clearly indicate that this department should be self-sustaining; and it is certainly proper that it should be self-sustaining. Justice, common honesty, and public policy, alike demand that those who enjoy the privilege of the Post-office Department should pay for them, and not those who do not have a direct benefit in it. Who is it that uses this Post office Department? Those who enjoy the largest mail facilities, and tax most heavily the postal service, are the merchants, the business men, and men of fortune and wealth. It is those men who frequently write from ten to thirty letters a day, while the farmer, the laboring men throughout the country, perhaps would not average a letter more than once a week, or a month; yet, under this system of making it a tax upon the Government, you require those who do not enjoy, except to a very limited degree, the benefits or privileges of this establishment, to pay for it out of the earnings of their labor. This Department should be brought back to the status that it exhibited for the first sixty years after it was organized. From 1790 to 1838, the Post-office Department was self-sustaining. It was so from 1838 to 1850, with a few exceptions, sometimes the revenues going a little over and sometimes a little under. But how is it since 1850? The deficiencies have gone on increasing until, in 1858, its expenditures exceeded its receipts \$2,625,007. For the year ending the 30th of June, 1859, the excess of expenditures amounted to \$5,966,000 26. Thus you see that we have a deficiency now upon us of nearly seven million dollars a year. That is an evil that should be stopped; and I am for doing it, at this time, and not delaying it longer than we can pass this bill and send it to the lower House for its concurrence. Abolish this franking privilege, which I think is a great evil, to the public service required, and the salaries of the persons employed in folding the documents and in carrying them from the folding rooms to the post office.

I think, then, I am fully justified in saying that this measure will effect a saving of \$500,000 a year, at least, in the public printing; but, if I am not mistaken, it will cause a much larger saving in the expense of transporting the mails.

I find in the report of the Postmaster-General:

It is well known that the expenses of the Department for printing have rapidly increased during the last ten years, and are now amounted to \$2,377,407 71; but for the year ending the 30th of June, 1859, they reached the sum of \$2,478,457. This has been produced by the enormous bulk and weight of the extra documents which are principally of a heavy nature, and by heavy books and printed documents sent by Government frank. Books which are recently weighed a few hundred pounds, are now, from this cause, found weighing tons.

You will observe that in the last ten years the expenses of mail transportation have increased to the extent of \$6,901,050. I am aware that a large portion of that is to be attributed to the cost of the postal service required in order to enable us to reach our Pacific settlements.—But I will deduct the expense of that from the total increase, and then let me see how it stands. I find from the Postmaster-General's report, the following statements:

Pacific Mails.—On taking charge of this Department, I found established and in full operation six different routes for carrying the mails to and from California and our other Pacific possessions, namely:

Ann'l cost. Ann'l rep'ts.

34 Congress, Printing, dry-pressing, folding, &c. \$142,599 80 \$254,641 75
Paper 166,533 25 343,610 30
Binding 146,443 41 218,599 42
Engraving, lithographing &c. 124,198 84 221,685 78
\$579,553 30 1,028,537 34 1,618,292 64

35 Congress, Printing, dry-pressing, folding, &c. \$102,341 13 \$204,019 10
Paper 83,877 34 220,946 40
Binding 50,527 80 113,033 28
Engraving, lithographing &c. 44,303 85 50,031 17
\$286,060 12 \$604,929 35 \$90,690 07

Average cost for the 34d, 35th & 36th Congresses 1,838,479 02 2,870,619 69 \$4,729,098 71

The average cost of the public printing for the six years included in this table is \$788,183 per annum. In the first statement which I gave, the largest expenditure was for the Twenty-Fifth Congress, \$319,665 35. That, I am told, does not include the binding. Taking half that sum for each year of the Congress, it would give \$159,802 67 per annum. Add \$40,000, which I am told is a large allowance for the binding, and you have \$199,802 67 as the annual expense of printing at that time. Deducting that from the annual printing expense for the last six years, of \$788,183, you have \$588,381 as the increased cost of the public printing in latter years. I think the greater part of this would be saved by abolishing the franking privilege, because then extra copies would not be printed for distribution. I am very confident that the result of this measure, if adopted, will be to effect an annual saving of \$500,000 in our printing expenses.

The Superintendent of Public Printing has furnished me a statement showing the regular number of documents printed for Congress during the Thirty-Third, Thirty-Fourth, and Thirty-Fifth Congresses, and their estimated weight.

34d Congress—1st Session. Octavo. Quarto. Total. House of Representatives 16,800 1,490
Senate 30,400 1,530

The average cost of the public printing for the six years included in this table is \$788,183 per annum. In the first statement which I gave, the largest expenditure was for the Twenty-Fifth Congress, \$319,6

